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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re to the Application of:

Peter W. BRINGMANN et al.

Examiner: Christine J. Saoud

Serial No.: 10/005,646

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed:

7 December 2001

Title:

NOVEL FIBROBLAST GROWTH FACTORS

Docket No.: 51835AUSM1

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed 14 February 2005, in the above-referenced application. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following remarks and amendments responsive to this Office Action.

A request for a three-month extension for responding to this Office Action is enclosed herewith, making the due date for responding to the Office Action, 15 August 2005 (since 14 August 2005 is a Sunday). Thus, this response is timely filed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-2117.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 40 and 41 as follows. A clean copy of the pending claims as amended are attached herewith in the Appendix.

40. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 36, wherein said polypeptide has 9[4]5% sequence identity to amino acid 1 to amino acid 208 of human FGF-9 as set forth in Fig. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 5), and wherein said polypeptide has FGF activity.